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UNION CITY, TENN., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1899.

VOL. 10. NO. 37.

..UNION CITY..

Obion County, Tennessee.

5,000 Population of as Moral and Industrious Citizens as Can be Found Anywhere.

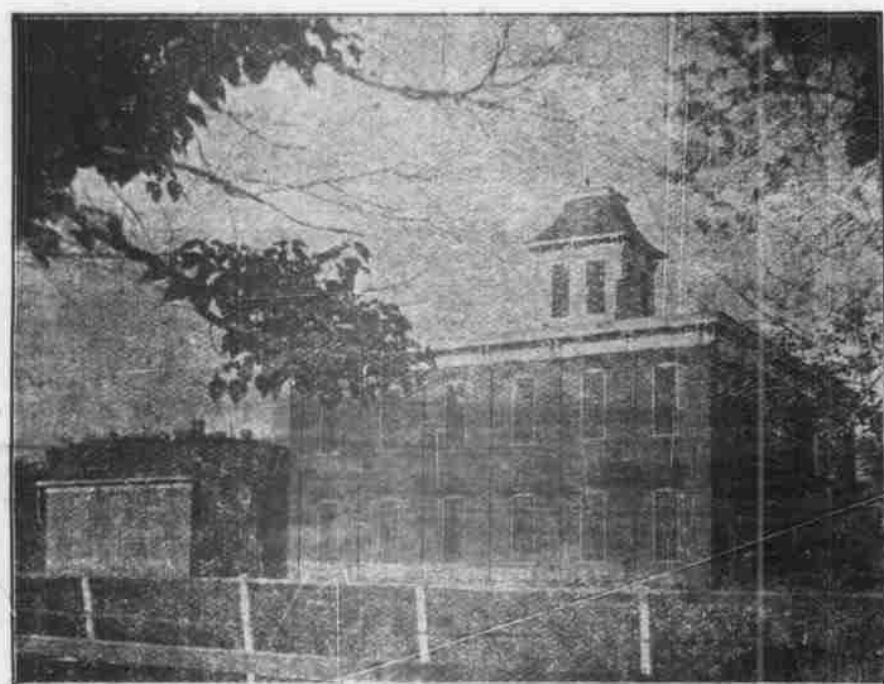
Located In as Fine a Section of Farming Country as Can be Found on the Globe.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE TOWN AND ITS PEOPLE.

Union City, the capital of Obion County, is the largest town within its confines. It boasts a population of 5,000 as good people as the sun ever shone upon. In point of intelligence, liberality and hospitality the community has but few, if any, equals.

A stranger, after a few weeks' residence in our city, is forcibly impressed with the conservatism of those with whom he has cast his lot. There is no caste in Union City, except in morals and intelligence, which can not truthfully be said of most Southern

first circular saw in this county. At the commencement of hostilities between the North and the South, Union City, on account of its excellent railroad facilities, was made a camp of instruction by the Confederate authorities, and at times it was occupied by from 5,000 to 20,000 men. After the fall of Fort Donelson it was captured by Col. Harvey Hogg, with a regiment of Illinois cavalry. It was afterwards twice taken by Forest's cavalry, but at the close of hostilities was in the hands of the Federals.



CITY SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

towns, in many of which a dollar in cash overbalances a bushel of morals, and a thirty-dollar tailor-made suit of clothes, though bought on a credit, and worn by one with a thimbleful of brains, makes the wearer one of the creme de la creme, while the intelligent, honest mechanic, in jeans, is not worthy of notice. It matters not what one's avocation in Union City may be, so long as he respects himself he receives the respect of the community, though misfortune may have emptied his pockets of their last penny.

Union City is at the junction of the Mobile & Ohio and the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railroads, 156 miles west of Nashville. It was laid out on land owned by Gen. George W. Gibbs, in 1854. The first store was opened

Union City was first incorporated in 1861, the first mayor being Thomas Ray. The aldermen were Jesse Garrett, William Askins, Felix G. McLaugh, Dr. Eli Bynum and Green Bynum. John Cullum was town marshal and Joseph Morehead recorder and treasurer. At the close of the war the charter was renewed, and W. D. Santos was elected mayor, and at that time the town could boast of but one merchant, John Morgan, who was soon followed in business by Tyler & Murphy, Cary & Patton, George and William Hatch, Curdin & Bynum, Parson Hutchinson and J. M. Vincent.

The town began to rapidly improve in 1866, and continued in growth and prosperity until 1873, at which time the population reached 1,000. During that year



STATE SENATOR REID WADDELL'S RESIDENCE.

ed by Dabney Glass the following year. At the same time a post-office was established with C. N. Gibbs as postmaster. The latter and W. B. Gibbs were the first resident attorneys of the town. Other antebellum merchants were A. H. Patton, Rice and Thomas M. Pierce, James Wilson, Thomas Ray, Felix G. McLaugh, Isaac Foster, Bynum Bros. and Robt. and William Seay. Drs. Clittin and Thompson were the first physicians, who were soon followed by Drs. Samuel Cutler, Robt. McMullen and Gus Batte. In 1856 Chas. N. Gibbs built a steam saw-mill, in which was used the

an epidemic of cholera caused the year. At the same time a post-office was established with C. N. Gibbs as postmaster. The latter and W. B. Gibbs were the first resident attorneys of the town. Other antebellum merchants were A. H. Patton, Rice and Thomas M. Pierce, James Wilson, Thomas Ray, Felix G. McLaugh, Isaac Foster, Bynum Bros. and Robt. and William Seay. Drs. Clittin and Thompson were the first physicians, who were soon followed by Drs. Samuel Cutler, Robt. McMullen and Gus Batte. In 1856 Chas. N. Gibbs built a steam saw-mill, in which was used the

Probably no town the size of Union City in the State is surrounded by as fertile and prolific a soil as blesses this section. Union City to-day is in a very thrifty financial condition, much of which can be attributed to the

splendid business sense of its recent and its present city officials. The latter who now hold the reins of government are the following gentlemen, who stand high in the estimation of our people as progressive, watchful business men: John T. Walker, mayor; J. W. Woosley, recorder; W. H. Gardner, R. Polk, W. G. Reynolds, W. F. Barry, Dr. T. D. Edwards and D. W. Beckham, aldermen; D. J. Hickman, city marshal and Clarence Steward policeman.

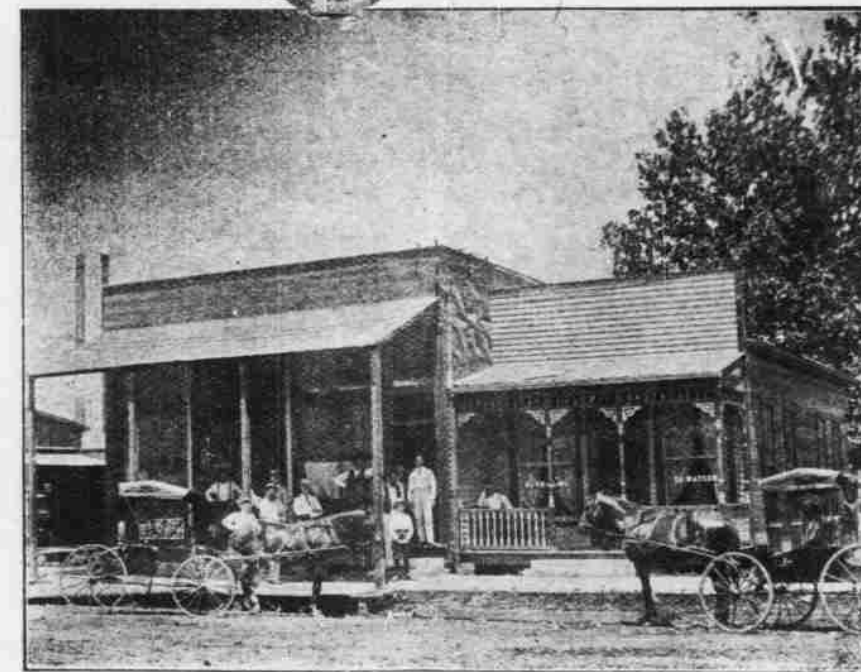
Union City has two railroads, a broom factory, two wholesale and retail fish and game houses, a large spoke factory, a large hand saw-mill, a successful chair factory, a splendid mattress factory, an excellent training school, an extensive ice factory plant, a mineral water bottling works, eight excellent church buildings, two up-to-date roller flouring mills, three well equipped livery stables, two weekly newspapers, a first-class steam laundry, a large machine shop and foundry, a well equipped and well stocked green houses, a unique and enterprising deery duck factory, as good a system of public schools as can be found in the land, a grainery—Morgan & Hardy Company—which does an immense business, as fine a system of water and electric light works as can be found anywhere, two banks and about seventy-five mercantile establishments of various kinds, some of which carry the largest stocks in West Tennessee outside of Memphis and Jackson.

For part of the above information we are indebted to Goodspeed's History of Tennessee.

W. A. NAILLING, M. D.

On June 23, 1872, Dr. W. A. Nailling was born four miles east from town, and was not more than 12 months old when his father moved to Union City. Dr. Nailling attended the public schools of our town until 16 years of age when he went to work on a farm, where he remained one summer, and returned

who had failed, making a bankable note payable in twelve months for the stock. By close economy and strict attention to business the young merchant was enabled to pay all indebtedness when due, and from that time until the present his business has constantly increased, until today there is not a drug firm in West Tennessee carrying a more complete stock on which has a more tastefully arranged store. Not being satisfied with his success as a merchant, Dr. Nailling decided to become a physician, and has taken the course in the medical department of the University of Tennessee. Since returning from

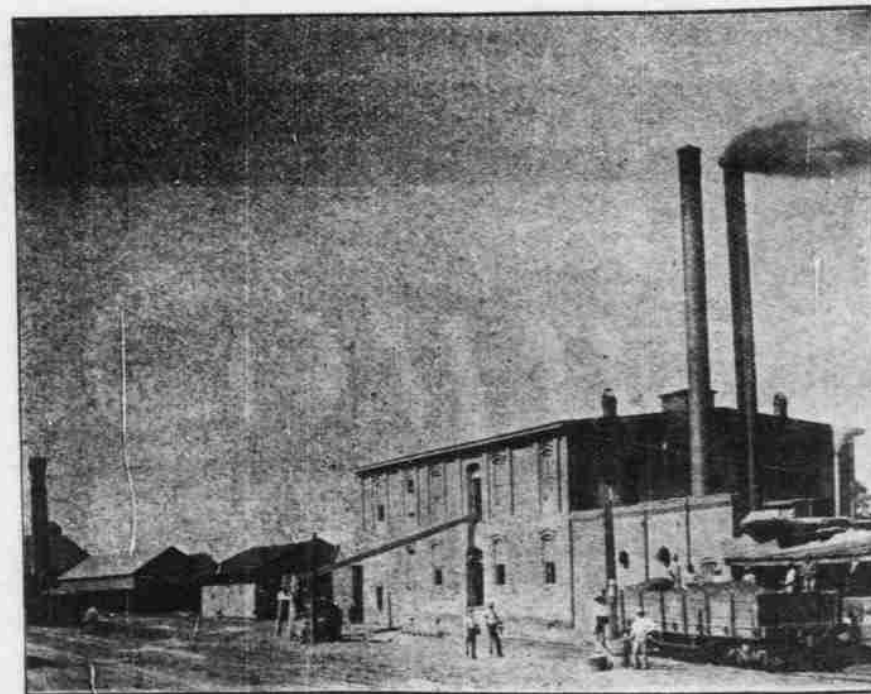


W. A. NAILLING'S DRUG STORE AND OFFICE.

been honored with considerable practice. He has one of the most perfect offices in West Tennessee, adjoining his handsome drug store, which is supplied with static, electric and x-rays apparatus, hydraulic nebulizing and spraying outfit for the treatment of catarrhal affections. His medical library is complete, and he has every surgical instrument needed in his profession. He will return to school in October where he will graduate.

MORGAN & HARDY GRAIN COMPANY.

In 1897, the Morgan & Hardy



MORGAN & HARDY GRAINERY.

Company succeeded the Phoenix Grain and Feed Company, and an inspection of the cut of their building in another part of this paper will convince any one that their business is one of the largest and most complete manufacturing of the kind in West Tennessee. The firm

manufactures corn meal and mixed feed, and are wholesale dealers in corn, wheat, oats and field seeds.

The company keeps in touch with the principal buyers of the leading cities, and can always give the producer and seller the latest market quotations, as well as give him the benefit of the knowledge they have gained from years of experience, which may prove of great financial interest to him.

In the office of this prosperous and prominent business to attend to the wants of the producer, seller or buyer of all kinds of grain will be found Messrs. T. F. Stubbs, secretary and treasurer; John T. Dickson, book-keeper and W. J. Dick-

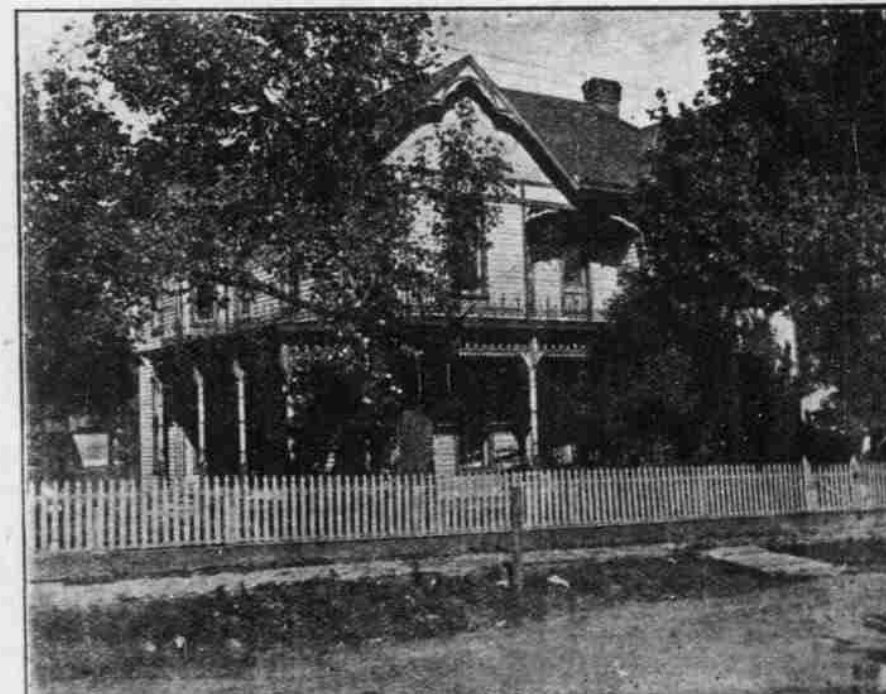
he soon became one of the leading merchants of the city. Mr. Osborne died on the 13th of September 1893, and the host of friends and relatives that followed him to the grave made one of the largest funeral processions ever seen in Union City. He was known as an ideal Christian gentleman, whose principal object in living was the happiness of others. When he died his daughter, Miss Lovie, continued the business, until '94 when she was united in marriage to Mr. A. N. Glover, who took charge of the store; and he it said to his credit that he has followed his father-in-law's line of honesty and fair dealing and has become known over all the county as a business man of the strictest integrity and honor. Their stock embraces nearly everything in the general merchandise line, of the latest and newest styles and patterns, and there are hundreds of people in Union City and surrounding territory who will tell you that they can always get goods a little cheaper at the Osborne Store than elsewhere.

UNION CITY WATER AND ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS.

The City Electric Light and Water Works were built at a cost of \$60,000 and completed April 1, 1892. On the 17th of June, 1895 the boiler exploded making a total wreck of the works and killing Mr. Carman, the engineer. The loss was total with an insurance of \$10,000. The works were rebuilt immediately at a cost of the amount received from the insurance company. On the 1st of January, 1898 the city put in improved machinery, which cost \$4,000 making the plant one of the most perfect outside of the larger cities. There are five artesian wells, 150 feet deep, from which the water is secured, and a scientific chemical analysis of the water shows it to be the purest and best, and many people locate in Union City for the express purpose of receiving the medicinal virtues of the water. There are eighty double-nozzled fire-plugs in the corporate limits, and the city is lighted by 100 fifty-candle power incandescent lamps. Union City has one of the most complete systems of water and electric light

THE OSBORNE STORE.

On the south-east corner of Washington Ave. and First Street, is located the Osborne Store, probably one of the most noted mercantile houses in Obion County. The business



DR. E. B. LITTLE'S RESIDENCE, COR. HOME AND EX. STS.

ness was begun some twenty years ago by Mr. T. B. Osborne, who from the start began to make a name for honesty and fair dealing, and his business integrity and his observation of the golden rule rapidly made him many friends, and

plants in the state, and besides giving the city a sufficiency of pure liquid refreshments and affording them a protection against fire and perfect street illumination, leaves a small amount in the city coffers. The cut of this building can be seen on next page.

THE COMMERCIAL COURIER'S

Great Special Trade Edition.

Containing History of Union City and Obion County, with Writings of Our Business Enterprises and Business Men.

OVER ONE HUNDRED SPLENDID ILLUSTRATIONS.

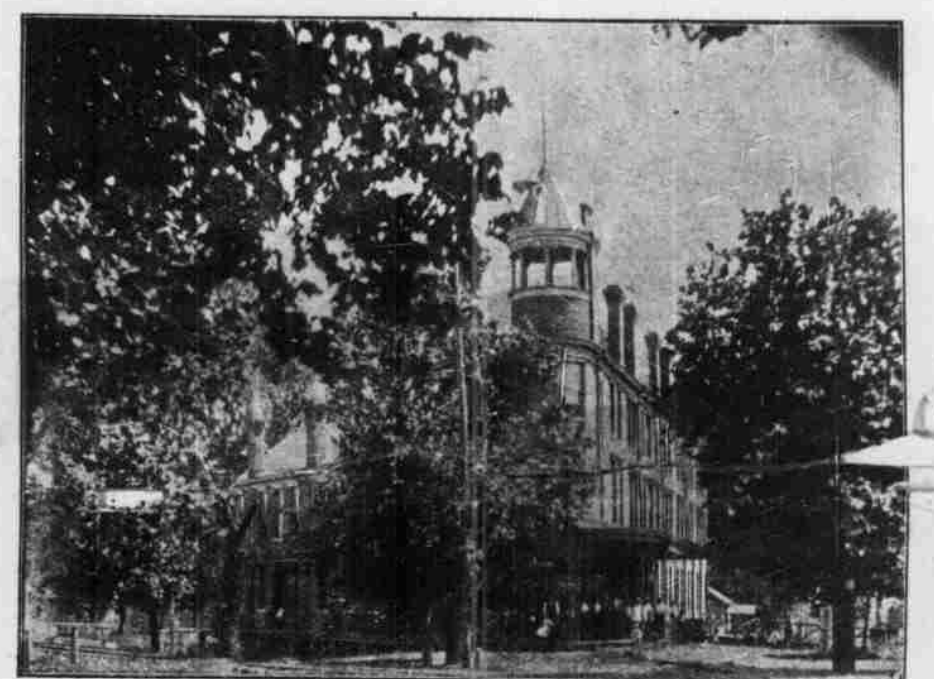
THE PALACE HOTEL.

The Palace Hotel is one of the most noted hostels, not only in West Tennessee but in the State. It was built in 1895, at a cost of \$25,000, and was opened to the public November the 15th of that year. The cuisine of this noted house is unrivaled by any hotel in this section, and traveling salesman often come from quite a distance to spend Sunday in its luxuriously furnished rooms and partake of the good things that always are to be found upon its tables. Each of the many rooms is laid with the finest Brussels carpet, and the furniture is of the costliest designs; and

HARRY T. ROBINSON

If there is any one in Obion County who is well and favorably known it is Harry T. Robinson, Union City's merchant tailor, who probably does more business in his line than does any firm in West Tennessee outside of Memphis.

Mr. Robinson was born in Quincy, Ills. 45 years ago, next January, but was reared in Paducah, Ky. In the latter city he served three years apprenticeship at his business, after which he completed his trade in St. Louis and New York, receiving in the latter city from the "Jno. J. Mitchell Cutting and School of Art," a diploma, which is one of



PALACE HOTEL.

every room in the house has an outside exposure. In connection with the hotel are the finest and most complete barber shops and bath rooms to be found in any city. The owner and proprietor of this famous resort for the travelling public is Mr. James C. Reynolds, who for many years was a passenger conductor on the Mobile & Ohio Railroad. The office in day time is presided over by Mr. Clarence Reynolds, the proprietor's son, while Mr. Culley McKee presides over this department during the night. A bus line runs direct from the hotel to the Illinois Central Railroad at Paducah Junction, and guests are never put to any inconvenience in making this important connection.

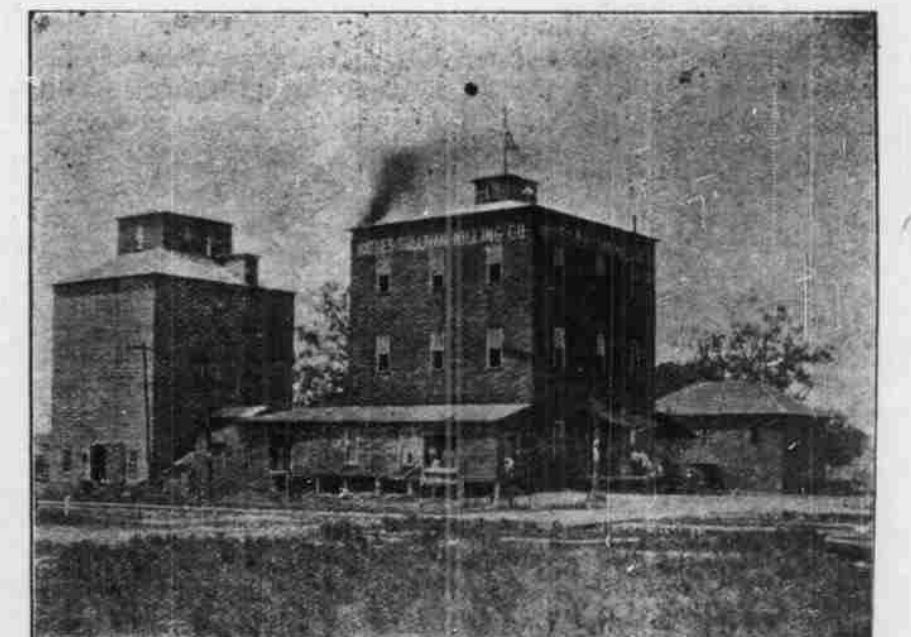
MATHES-SULLIVAN MILLING COMPANY.

This firm began business in Union

the highest proofs of competency in this country that a tailor and cutter can possess.

Sixteen years ago, Mr. Robinson cast his lot with the people of Union City, and he certainly has no cause to regret it from a financial point of view, for he has been successful, nor from a social standpoint for he commands the respect and esteem of all our people. He is a consistent and valued member of the Methodist Church, and the past eight years has been the Sunday School Superintendent of that denomination. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a Knight of Pythias and a member of the Golden Cross.

Mr. Robinson not only does a large local business, but his trade extends over Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, Mississippi, Kentucky and Tennessee. He has one of the finest residences in the city and one



MATHES-SULLIVAN MILLING COMPANY.

City last October, with great competition, notwithstanding which they have built up one of the most creditable and profitable mill businesses in West Tennessee. Their special brand "Rising Sun Flour" is to-day recognized as one of the best brands of flour made in the State, and has an extensive sale reaching as far as New Orleans. The firm has also had two large export orders, one to Cuba and one to Scotland. The immensity of their sales can be imagined when one learns that since embarking in business they have ground over 140,000 bushels of wheat.

The members of the firm are W. J. Mathes, Jack Mathes and E. M. Sullivan. Carmel Hughes attends to the books in the office. Mr. Sullivan is seller for the firm and is on the road the greater part of the time.

of the handsomest two-story business houses in the town, both of brick.

George, Mr. Robinson's only son, is connected with him in the business and is destined to make as enviable reputation as his father, both as a workman and Christian gentleman. He is recognized as one of the model young men of our city, and as he is a natural born salesman his father contemplates in the future to keep him on the road the greater part of the time.

A German fish-breeder named Jaffe has succeeded, after several fruitless attempts, in transporting from Colorado to Germany the eggs of the purple trout (salmo purpurata) and raising a large brood.